

# the marquee

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE

Volume 19 No. 3

Spring 1993

## Kansas Theatre Hall of Fame Adds Three

Three long-time Kansas theatre advocates were inducted into the Kansas Theatre Hall of Fame during Convention '93. Included were Martha Herrick, a high school teacher from Topeka, and Mildred Brown and Ernestine Hayes of Stafford and the Stafford Drama Guild. Herrick received her award during intermission of the AACT/Fest, Friday, March 5. Hayes received her plaque at the banquet which wrapped up the convention on Sunday, March 7. Brown was unable to attend and received her award in absentia.

Herrick has been active in high school theatre since 1953, serving as a classroom teacher, stagecraft coordinator and play director. She has been involved in more than 100 productions at Topeka High School and has guest directed at Topeka Civic Theatre and acted at other Topeka-area theatres. In 1989, she personally edited the 50-page application when Topeka High School was selected as a National High School of Excellence.

Offstage, she also is involved in numerous school committees, and coaches, manages the score book and sponsors the cheerleading squad.

Hayes is a charter member of the Stafford Drama Guild which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1992. She is also the founder of the Stafford Players, a nondenominational group of high school students who traveled throughout the region for 20 years presenting religious dramas.

In 1971, Hayes was instrumental in acquiring a home for the guild, working to purchase a former church and renovate it into a 100-seat theatre. She also loaned the group money on occasion to tide it over hard financial times. Recently, she and her husband, Earl, offered to match funds to locate a storage building near the theatre.

In 1992, she volunteered to serve as director for a month-long Kansas Arts Commission-funded children's theatre workshop, bringing the group back to its roots in presenting plays for children.

Brown became an active member of the Stafford Drama Guild in 1948, directing the group's first three-act play. In the early days, she and a pianist toured Kansas communities,



Ernestine Hayes, charter member of the Stafford Drama Guild addresses the AKT membership following her induction into the Kansas Theatre Hall of Fame at UN-Convention '93, March 5, in Topeka.

giving "musical readings" taken from major Broadway musicals. In 1973, she directed the Guild's entry in the first play contest held by the Kansas Community Theatre Conference, forerunner of AKT's Community Theatre Division. The play placed second in competition in Wichita — reflecting well on the smallest Kansas town represented at the competition.

In addition to her work with the Guild onstage, Brown was also very active in the group's community-improvement projects, including benefits for local Boy Scouts, the Larabee Memorial Library, Stafford Hospital and the Rock Springs 4-H Camp.

She directed her last play in the spring of 1992. Although she suffered a debilitating stroke last April and is confined to a wheelchair, she still attends Guild productions and continues to be the group's biggest cheerleader.

In addition to the Hall of Fame, other awards were also presented at the banquet. Included among these were: Shawnee Mission North High School, Outstanding Achievement Award for its theatre programs covering the past five decades; Cloud County Summer Theatre Academy, Award of Merit for providing theatrical opportunities for young people in a culturally disadvantaged area; Ray Makalous, Overland Park, Award of Merit for coordinating an original musical drama, *Overland*, to celebrate Kansas Day in 1993; and Paul Prece, Topeka, Award of Merit for developing a highly successful, low-budget children's theatre production company at Washburn University.

*Continued on page 3*

## Office Closes For Summer

Because of a shortfall in funding for the year, the AKT Central Office will close for the summer. Mail service will continue, but the telephone will be disconnected.

In order to maintain communications with members, the Brown Grand Theatre in Concordia has volunteered its services. Members may call Susie Haver, theatre manager, at 913-243-2553, with concerns. Specific questions may also be referred to AKT President Bill Brewer or any member of the board of directors. Telephone numbers are listed on page 6.

## Help Elect The AKT President

While only one candidate for the office of AKT President-Elect was presented at the convention, AKT By-Laws require a paper ballot for confirmation of the choice or to provide an opportunity for members to advance a write-in candidate.

Please confirm the following candidate or write in a candidate of your choice and return your ballot to the AKT Central Office, 949 Parklane, #332, Wichita, KS 67218, by June 15.

G KICKOFF		
OON <input type="checkbox"/> FRIDAY EVENING		
FTERNOON		
20th Anniversary Banquet and Bash		

## Workshop Summary

# 'Improvisation Through Theatre Sports'

We had fun! It is no coincidence that a work of theatre is called a "play." If we can't connect with the playfulness in ourselves, we're restricted as actors. Some of the finest work in the recent AACT/Fest productions proves this: The playfulness of the dancing flea in *Archy*, Linda Uthoff in *A . . . My Name is Alice* playing a man with more testosterone than many of us are able to muster (Is this the secret we're not supposed to tell?), two new friends reduced to jelly in *A Couple of White Chicks Sittin' Around Talking*, and the more serious playing of war in the wonderful drama, *A Piece of My Heart*.

These actors did what children do when they play: plunged themselves deeply into a world of fantasy of experimentation and possibility. What a wonderful cross section of why we do theatre!

I suppose the above is a digression from re-hashing some details of the "Improvisation" workshop, but it relates in that if you can find any exercise of the imagination that taps on playfulness, you have a tool that will help actors to connect with the child in themselves. Here's a *short* summary of the exercises we did — anyone wanting more details should feel free to give me a call.

### Steal the Bacon/What Else can it be?

— Actors form two facing lines and then number off, starting at opposite ends. An object (such as a set of keys) is set midway between them. When the leader calls out a number, both actors run to grab the object and turn to their team (those on the same line they came from) and use the object as though it were something else, i.e., a hairbrush or earrings. When the team guesses, they score a point. If the actor uses something that's been done before, no point is scored. If the actor gets there and can't think of anything else the object can be, the team loses a point. *Fun!*

**What ya doin'?** — Two actors (one from each team if you're playing teams) stand next to each other. Actor One pantomimes an activity such as "combing my hair." Actor Two says, "What ya doin'?" Actor One must name any common activity *other than* "Combing my hair." So Actor One might respond "Mowing

the lawn" at which time Actor Two must immediately begin that activity. Actor One then asks Two, "What ya doin'?" and while still mowing the lawn, Actor Two responds with another activity, like "Washing the dishes" and so on. Thinking of one thing while doing another. Rubbing your tummy while patting your head. *Fun!*

**The Hot Seat** — This is a simple relationship exercise. One actor sits in "the hot seat," (just a chair) and the other enters the scene. The standing actor sets up a relationship by what he says without actually naming the relationship. For example, the entering actor might say, "If you don't do your chores, you won't get your allowance" but cannot say, "Son, if you don't do you chores, you won't get your allowance." The seated actor gets a chance to respond: "But I already did my chores — last week!" Then the audience names the relationship, the seated actor joins the audience and the standing actor takes "the Hot Seat." This is an easy exercise to take an entire group through and gives the leader some feel for the actors. *Fun!*

**Unlikely Sports** — Divide into groups of

four (five will work as well). Each group is given five minutes to think of an "Unlikely Sport." These competitive sports must be something that could *never* really be done competitively! Examples are: World Championship Shoe Tying Contest, World Championship Chicken Throwing Contest, World Championship Lawn Mowing, etc. The team divides into two sportscasters and two or three contestants. The sportscasters share directly with the audience what is going on while the contestants act it out. During the improv, both sportscasters and contestants should listen to each other to get cues as to what to do, such as, "Look how fast she ties that knot — oh, no, she got her finger caught in it. There, she's free, but that will cost her five points." *Fun.*

We did a couple of other exercises, but I'm running out of space and want to keep a few trade secrets. I felt the workshops were very successful because I saw a lot of playfulness from people who know how to have a good time and share it and we had **FUN!!!**

— Ric Averill

## From The President

**Excellent news to pass on to you!** Because of the hard work of several Board members in the process of reworking the KAC grant, we have been notified that we will be funded for \$3,000 for the next fiscal year! It's a good feeling to know that the number one goal for us this past year has been accomplished. But, if not for your very dedicated Board, it would not have been. My thanks to each of them. While the funding is not as much as it has been in the past, it will help alleviate some serious financial concerns.

Well, the Board met April 3 in Manhattan and accomplished some major things, as this issue of *Marquee* will show. Please be sure to read the summary of the meeting and the articles by the Division Chairs. I think you'll notice a positive change taking place! Moreover, I think you'll begin to see a new attitude toward the organization taking root over the course of this coming year. The "new" Board is planning carefully and is not afraid to take on new directions.

That was exactly what I had hoped would come about after the Convention. I had hoped we would finally face up to a few things about ourselves and where we want change and new direction. Some things that had been left either unspoken, undecided or unstated for years have now clarified for the Board. They — and I — have a clear direction to go in about several matters. And, we fully intend to get to where you said you want AKT to go. To everyone at Convention, thank you!

By the way, it may have been small and simple, but apparently Convention '93 was successful in several important ways. Note the wrap-ups elsewhere in this issue for specifics. We even "made money!"

### Please be aware that:

The Board has decided to close the Central Office in Wichita for the summer. Please note the summer location, phone number and contact person. Our thanks to Brown Grand Theatre for making their office available to AKT at no cost for the summer! This is a cost-saving move, as John G.'s current contract expires at the end of May, and taking this hiatus will save a considerable amount. It also allows the Board time to consider and discuss in-depth the costs involved in the Central Office for the coming year.

As part of our grant funding, we will be planning a needs assessment for the organization sometime this year. This should really help our long-range planning. Watch for the survey instrument this coming fall and please plan to respond quickly so we can have the results available by Convention.

The Community Theatre Division is sponsoring a set of workshops in June. Look for that information elsewhere in this issue and/or from Laurie.

Planning on the 20th Anniversary Convention for March 1994 is well underway! The theme: The Diversity of Theatre in Kansas. The hope: that you will respond to the call for workshops and performances! Look for more information in this issue!

The University/College Division is planning to once again hold its mid-year festival in November at Hutchinson Community College. Emphasis on students' auditions, response to performances, etc. The last two have been enjoyable and relaxed — a great thing for students!

So much happening! This year will go fast and so much better than the last one! I hope your excitement builds throughout the coming year as we head to the big 20th birthday bash in McPherson.

Stay in touch! If you need something from AKT over the summer and forget the Central Office has moved (lose the number, etc.), call me at Hutchinson Community College. Seems I'll be there every day from now on . . .

See you in the theatre!

— Bill Brewer  
AKT President

## Theatre Seats For Sale

Great Bend Community Theatre is beginning the replacement of seating in the Crest Theatre and is accepting bids on the existing seats. The first phase will involve the removal of 208 seats in May.

The seats are on 19" and 20" centers and are approximately 45 years old.

For more information or to make an offer, contact the box office or call GBCT's (6)

## ESU Theatre Wins Regional ACTF

The halls of the theatre department at Emporia State University were virtually empty April 20-22 while several members of the department attended the American College Theatre Festival in Washington, D.C. For the first time ever, an Emporia State production, *The Voice of the Prairie*, was one of six plays chosen from a field of more than 830 plays from across the United States to be presented at the Kennedy Center.

"Voice," by John Olive, was directed by Ron Frederickson. It was performed three times during the festival.

The cast and crew are very pleased and excited to be chosen for this honor. Said Harry Parker, department chair for ESU's theatre department, "It affirms for us what we already knew — Emporia State has one of the best theatre programs in the country!"

## Hard-To-Find Props List Grows

Peg Sullivan, costumer at the Helen Hocker Theatre in Topeka, wrote recently with the following offer for additions to the AKT "hard-to-find" props and costumes list:

Costumes are available for minimal rental, as a complete or partial show:

- *Gypsy* — includes uniforms and cow
- *Anything Goes* — includes six angels
- *Snoopy*
- *Man of LaMancha* — includes armor and horse heads
- *Annie Get Your Gun*
- *Into The Woods*
- *Alice in Wonderland*

Contact Sullivan at the Helen Hocker Theatre, Parks and Recreation, 215 E. 7th Street, Room 259, Topeka, KS 66603, or call 913-273-1191. The theatre is also willing to exchange for costumes from other theatre's stock.

## Members Invited To Board Meetings

AKT members are reminded that all assemblies of the AKT Board of Directors are open meetings, and an invitation is extended for all members to attend.

The following schedule of board meetings is published for your convenience in planning:

- July 24-25, 1993 — *The Barn*, Apple Valley, Kansas
- September 11, 1993 — Town Mall, Manhattan
- November 20, 1993 — U/C Festival, Hutchinson
- January 22, 1994 — McPherson College, McPherson
- March 4-6, 1994 — CONVENTION '94, McPherson College

The summer retreat will begin at 9 a.m., Saturday, and run through Sunday. All other meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. For further information, contact Bill Brewer, AKT President, at 316-665-3592.

## Call For Workshops, Papers & Performances THEATRE OF DIVERSITY: KANSAS '94

### AKT Convention McPherson, Kansas / March 3-6, 1994

#### ■ THIS WILL BE THE 20TH!!!

The 20th year of the Association of Kansas Theatre and the 20th convention of our organization — an exciting landmark. We hope to have a wonderful convention with something for *everyone!* Hence, Theatre of Diversity.

#### ■ IT IS YOUR CONVENTION!!!

This is a member-driven organization and for the convention to work, we need your participation — not just in attendance but in the planning and implementation of the workshops and performances themselves.

#### ■ HENCE, THIS CALL FOR YOUR INPUT!!!

This is your opportunity to let us know what you can provide or what you would like to see. We will do our best to use as many ideas as we can. Just fill out the form below and return it by June 1st, 1993. (We want to get this thing rolling early).

Ric Averill and Laurie VanderPol-Hosek, Convention Co-Chairs  
c/o Seem-To-Be Players / P.O. Box 1601 / Lawrence, Kansas 66044

## Call For Workshops, Papers & Performances THEATRE OF DIVERSITY: KANSAS '94

### AKT Convention McPherson, Kansas / March 3-6, 1994

■ NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

city \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ work \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_

■ IS THIS A PROPOSAL FOR A:  PERFORMANCE  WORKSHOP  PAPER

TITLE OF PROPOSAL \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER AND NAMES (if known) OF PARTICIPANTS: Number \_\_\_\_\_

Names \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL \_\_\_\_\_

■ SPECIAL NEEDS \_\_\_\_\_

■ PREFERRED TIMES:  THURSDAY EVENING KICKOFF

FRIDAY MORNING  FRIDAY AFTERNOON  FRIDAY EVENING

SATURDAY MORNING  SATURDAY AFTERNOON

\*NOTE: Saturday Evening will be held for a special 20th Anniversary Banquet and Bash  
and a surprise performance!!

## CT Division Plans Workshop

The Community Theatre Division is resurrecting the "Community Theatre Workshop Series." The popular program will return with a full-day program at the **Brown Grand Theatre**, Concordia, on Saturday, June 5. In addition to networking opportunities, the workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss items of interest to division members and an invitation to view a production of *The Alto Part*, directed by AKT board member-at-large, **Susan Sutton**.

While this is a Community Theatre Division project, attendance is open to all current AKT members. There is no charge for attendance at the workshop, although admission will be charged for the production.

"As your division chair, I understand that many of you appreciate the opportunity for networking at these regional meetings," said **Laurie VanderPol-Hosek**, CT division chair, "and I encourage anyone and everyone with community theatre interests to attend."

Registration begins with coffee at 8:30 a.m. at the Brown Grand Theatre. First workshop session begins at 9:30. Entitled "Designing and Directing for the Community Theatre," the emphasis will be on big book musicals. Joining VanderPol-Hosek on the panel will be **Susan Sutton**, University/College Division community college liaison, and **Tony Naylor**, chair, University/College Division.

Following a noon luncheon provided at AKT, attendees will enjoy a roundtable discussion entitled "Concerns For Our Theatres," covering items such as personnel concerns, fund raising, marketing, etc. The afternoon concludes with a guided tour of the historic Brown Grand Theatre. Adjournment is scheduled for 4:30.

Several local restaurants are close by for dinner prior to the evening production.

Preregistration is requested so that sufficient food may be available at noon. All AKT members were sent a flier announcing the event several weeks ago. If you didn't receive a flier or have misplaced the registration form, please contact **Laurie VanderPol-Hosek**, 913-841-1680, by June 2.

## Hall of Fame . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Hills, Inc., a Topeka firm, was awarded the Steven B. Cathey Award for its support of the arts in general and the Topeka Performing Arts Center in particular.

### Educators Cited

Outstanding educators/administrators were also honored for their support of theatrical activities at their institutions. Administrators included: Jim Burkhardt, Deerfield High School; Stephen Williams, Salina Central High School; and Gary Fisher, Attica High School. High school drama instructors cited were: Carole Crist, Quinter High School; Suzanne Murray, Hugoton High School; Carmen Shelly, DeSoto High School; **Carol Armstrong**, Wetmore High School; and Pam Johnson Taverner, Clearwater High School.

### AACT/Fest Participants Praised

Following the AACT/Fest productions, the judges selected several participants for special mention. For **Chanute Community Theatre's** production of *A Piece of My Heart* there were kudos for sound design and ensemble performance, and an acting award was presented to **Bridget Fairchild**.

**Lawrence Community Theatre's** production of *archy & mehitabel* received attention for its set design. Also cited were **Karin Lawson** for dance and **Rich Kaler** for acting.

Recognition of the **Manhattan Civic Theatre** completed the awards. Honored were **Ann Woodmansee** and **Linda Haynes Uthoff** for acting. The special musical accompaniment also drew praise.



*Linda Haynes Uthoff, left, and Edith Hinrichs celebrate Manhattan Civic Theatre's victory in the 1993 AACT/Fest. Their production of A . . . My Name is Alice went on to represent Kansas in regional competition.*

## Going More Places! with T-Money and Wolf

*T-Money and Wolf*, excerpts from which were presented at the recent AKT Unconvention, has been accepted for the New Voices/New Visions Conference at the Kennedy Center. The play was one of eight out of 41 plays selected for the prestigious week-long script development project which will culminate in a staged reading by professional Washington area student and adult actors. Kevin Willmott and **Ric Averill** will spend the week working on the piece and **Jeanne Averill** will join them for the weekend presentation.

*T-Money and Wolf* is a play about choices. "T-Money" is the story of a tough street youth who chooses the world of money through drugs over friendship and commitment. He ends up killing for the sake of his money.

"Wolf" is the story of a young boy who chooses to join a seemingly innocent political group for the sake of the prestige and privileges it gives. The group turns out to be the Hitler Youth of the 1930s, and Wolfgang's life becomes tracked so that he ends up a war criminal. The final scene of the play shows T-Money, or Terry, in prison with a 60-year-old Wolf, or Wolfgang, each feeling that the other is the worse criminal.

Kevin wrote the "T-Money" section which takes place in Newark, New Jersey, and Ric wrote the pre-war German "Wolf" section of the play. Both playwrights worked together on the final jail scene, each writing the dialogue of their respective principal characters and making suggestions on the interaction between the two. Kevin and Ric co-directed a Lawrence High School staged workshop production in early October. The production sold out all three nights of its initial run.

The play was also performed script-in-hand for Lawrence's Martin Luther King Day celebration and then in workshop at AKT and the Mid-America Theatre Convention in Kansas City. The play will travel to the American Association for Theatre in Education in Boston in August with 30+ Kansas students and their sponsors.

THE NEXT STEP — *T-Money and Wolf* will be restaged by the **Seem-To-Be Players** professional children's theatre for a 3-4 week

1994-95 tour of Kansas and Midwestern junior highs, high schools and family audience venues. The tour will feature age-appropriate actors and will seek grant support from organizations concerned with values and choices facing urban youth.

For more information, please contact: **Ric Averill**, Artistic Director, Seem-To-Be Players, P.O. Box 1601, Lawrence, Kansas 66044; (913) 842-6622.

## Southwestern Bell Grants Allocated

The AKT *Marquee* and six additional applicants were awarded funding under Southwestern Bell Foundation's 1993 "Kansas Arts Excellence" program. The foundation provides \$10,000 annually to support projects among AKT members.

In addition to the \$2,500 allocated to AKT for expenses associated with printing and mailing *Marquee*, the other awardees included: **Broadway RFD**, Lindsborg, \$900 to underwrite a production of *The Wizard of Oz* in July 1993; **Seem-To-Be Players**, Lawrence, \$1,500 to underwrite a production of *Radio, Gneep and Frip-Frap*, an original Halloween play by **Ric and Jeanne Averill** in October 1993; **Theatre Atchison**, Atchison, \$1,500 to underwrite a six-day residency of the Illustrated Theatre Touring Company during National Arts Week/National Education Week in November 1993; **Lawrence Community Theatre**, Lawrence, \$1,200 to partially fund start-up salary for a new Education Director at the theatre, beginning in September 1993; **Wichita Center For The Arts**, Wichita, \$1,200 for technical and artistic fees associated with a new addition to their schedule, a presentation for young audiences entitled *Most Valuable Player*, in May 1994; and the **Lawrence Arts Center**, Lawrence, \$1,200 to defray expenses for a guest director-in-residence and special guest technical director for its Summer Youth Theatre, June-August 1993.

# Divisional Meetings: An Overview

Divisional meetings were very successful this year. Active discussion generated ideas and commitment to the organization. Some of the ideas brought forth in the meetings are already being acted upon. I've received reports from Community Theatre and Children's Theatre/Secondary/Professional and would like to briefly summarize and respond to these.

Community Theatre renewed a commitment to AACT/Fest. That means we need a site for 1995!! Suggestions? It is also not too early to put in your bid for the 1997 site. We hope that the community theatres will start planning which productions they all want to bring.

A Board suggestion: It is our AACT/Fest — do we want separate divisions in the competition for musicals and non-musicals? And if so; prizes, plaques or trophies for each — with an overall grand winner going on to regionals? We can structure this "our way" in terms of awards as long as we follow the rules that will be in place as we send another Kansas Theatre "all the way!!!"

Community Theatre also suggested some changes for convention and AACT/Fest participation therein — Great stuff; we'll work on it!

The Division wants more information, more quickly. Great idea — we already have McPherson in the works, and as soon as we have a site for AACT/Fest '95, you'll be getting information. The *Marquee* will be more lively than ever next year and you will be receiving convention registration information in the fall of 1993. Keep the ideas coming and fill out the

attached form with your ideas for workshop and productions for McPherson!

Secondary, Children's and Professional Theatre Division all met together. There was a feeling that so much of what we do is educational theatre and/or theatre with and for youth that we should maintain Board Members from each, but generally meet as a whole and look at mutual goals.

The Division(s) began to explore immediately ideas for McPherson. The Illustrated Theatre (from Convention '92) will be in Salina the week following the convention and we decided to ask them if they'd like a performance opportunity — they got quite a bit of work out of the Fusion convention. They have agreed!!! So we have one part of a wonderful program in place.

The 20th Anniversary Banquet and Bash will be a blow out — and I promise there will be a band we can really dance to. We will invite all Past Presidents and Hall-of-Famers to come join us for that special evening.

The Division felt that we need not emphasize high school students because the Thespians cover that need; however, we will try to get a Kansas Thespian State Board Member to represent KTS at AKT.

We are working on a panel about Theatre for At-Risk students. Other panels on issues of Diversity were encouraged.

The meeting was very positive and reaffirmed the Division's commitment to convention networking as the main function of the Association of Kansas Theatre.

University/College Division reaffirmed

their commitment both to the convention and to each other. They set a goal of continuing the mini-convention in the fall and finding ways to bring the best of what they do there on to the spring convention.

They also are looking for ways to broaden the participation in their division. Some state schools are still not regularly represented.

Please, if you have ideas or thoughts, contact the Chair or Chair-Elect of your division — they are there to make sure that AKT is what you want it to be. Really! Truly! We are member-driven.

Look to the next *Marquee* for more division reports and more information on coming events!!

— Ric Averill

Perhaps Possibly President-Elect

## Meeting Report: Community Colleges

Community college liaison Susan Sutton sent letters inviting all community college theatre directors in Kansas to attend Friday's Univ/Col divisional dialogue, as well as the convention. Of the nineteen, five were present: Bruce Spitzer, Allen County; Rick Groetzinger, Colby; Rozilyn Miller, Colleyville; Bill Brewer, Hutchinson; and Susan Sutton, Cloud County.

At the meeting, Rozilyn Miller volunteered to gather information and print a community college theatre newsletter from information submitted to her. The newsletter, a forum and bulletin board for all community college theatre directors regardless of their membership in AKT, could carry information about rental/loan policies for costumes and equipment; announcements; productions and seasons; concerns, etc. Rozilyn will begin the newsletter with the 1993-94 school year. All directors are encouraged to submit news.

After some discussion, it was decided to offer the college and university play festival at Hutchinson Community College. In past years, Hutchinson has hosted the event which provided the opportunity for colleges and

*Continued on page 6*

## Division Report:

### Combined Children's, Secondary Schools, Professional Division Meeting Held

Sunday at the convention, the Children's Theatre, Secondary Schools and Professional divisions held a joint meeting. Here are some of the highlights that came out of that gathering.

- Next year's convention: second weekend in March at McPherson College.
- Panel on at-risk — put together by Pam Jones; Diversity is the theme.
- Sharon Miller mentioned it would be nice to have a list of people interested in doing inservice. K-6 needs help with advocacy with administrators; elementary — value of drama in any classroom; roster of KAC artists in ed meet with at convention.
- Elementary educators need a justification to attend convention.
- One-page flier to elementary school in area of conventions with a cross curricular emphasis.
- Re-define our Division to Theatre for Youth maintaining the chair for children's theatre — Linda Uthoff, at-large Deb Wall and the chair for secondary — Phil Kinen, chair-elect Joan Blazek.
- Suggestion for booths from schools and organizations in the lobby of the theatre next year.
- The convention should be our thrust — what AKT does for all of us so we want to include in the information about convention things there for elementary and secondary teachers that they wouldn't want to miss.
- It is our 20th anniversary so Saturday night all past-presidents and hall-of-famers will be invited to dinner and dance (Ric has assured us it will be a band we can dance to).
- Might offer prepared scenes to be critiqued.
- AKT should have memberships to AATE and ETA.

## Marquee To List Season Schedules

In the past, the *Marquee* has listed the seasons of AKT member theatres. This was a fun idea! It failed the last two times it was attempted because most theatres didn't send in the information.

We want to try it again. So, if you want your 1993-94 season listed in the next (late summer) issue of the *Marquee*, you must send it by August 1 to: Linda C. Smurr, AKT Professional Division Chair, 310 S. Main, Newton, KS 67114

Production	Date(s)	Time(s)	Theatre Name & Location/Address

Box Office Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

AKT Member Discount Offered:  Yes  No

## AKT Board Responds

In a very fruitful meeting on April 3rd at Manhattan's Town Mall, the Board of Directors of AKT spent considerable time responding to concerns voiced at the convention and planning for the 1993-94, 20th year of our organization.

Membership can expect a more timely *Marquee*, clearer and earlier financial reports, more networking and membership support projects, more workshops, a member-driven convention and a brand new nationwide health care plan.

Seriously, we will have a Board Planning Retreat at "The Barn," a Valley Falls, Kansas, Bed and Breakfast (Board Members will be paying their own way) on July 24th and 25th. Members with ideas, concerns, projects, complaints, suggestions, plans, should get them to their divisional chairs, or **Bill Brewer** or **Ric Averill** by July 1st so that we can include them as part of the planning process.

Look for a needs assessment survey as part of your 1993-94 AKT correspondence. This was a part of our successful 1993-94 Grant application. We received \$3,000 from the KAC this year as of the panel meeting on April 13th.

The summer offices of the AKT will be at the Brown Grand Opera House in Concordia, Kansas. Call or write: Susan Haver, P.O. Box 341, Concordia, Kansas, (913) 243-2553

## Marquee

*Marquee* is published as a membership service of the Association of Kansas Theatre, Inc. Members are encouraged to submit information and articles about their work, special interests, honors/awards, or issues of concern to the general membership.

The mention of a product, service, publication, conference, workshop, meeting, etc., in *Marquee* does not constitute endorsement or sponsorship, nor is it an indication of quality by *Marquee* or the AKT unless specifically stated.

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John A. Gedraitis  
Executive Director/Editor

## Community Colleges

(Continued from page 5)

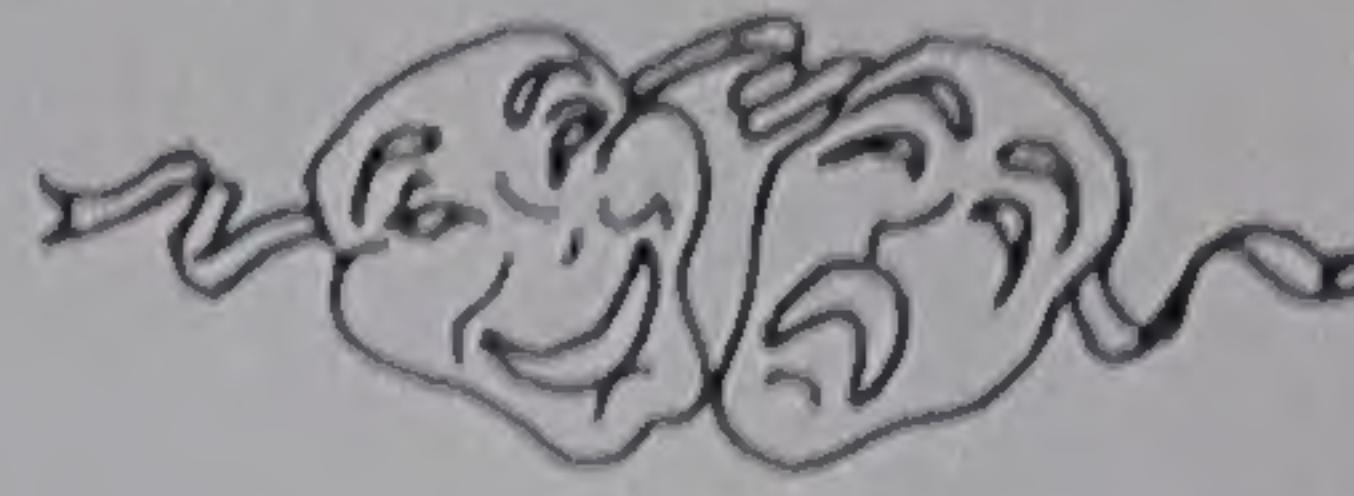
universities to submit a one-hour production for adjudication. Schools may be required to pay a nominal fee to help pay for the adjudicator's stipend.

**John Hunter** suggested that the event may also include an opportunity for student actors to perform a monologue for critique. This would be especially helpful for students planning to audition for scholarships at another institution. Although no date was set for the event, past festivals have been held in November. More news will follow on the state

theatre festival for colleges and universities.

**John Hunter** suggested workshop ideas for the 1994 AKT convention that might be of particular interest to college and university faculty: managing departments; the one-person department; transcript evaluation to four-year from two-year colleges; and other workshops of an academic nature where papers may be read, theatre books or plays reviewed, original stage material is introduced, directors perform, etc.

— Susan Sutton



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